members who are serving on a City Board or Commission on their personal time, who elect to participate, and who are responsible for the care of a child aged 13 or younger or a dependent child with a disability under the age of 18. The City Manager has authority to establish additional appropriate eligibility criteria, stipend calculation methodology, and reporting procedures.

Section 2. For 2024, an initial funding of \$20,000 will be allocated from the Council Special Projects Reserve to fund a pilot of the childcare stipend program. For subsequent years, the childcare stipend program may be funded through the standard budget process. In the event funding is not provided for a particular budget year by the Council, the City Manager is directed to suspend the program.

Section 3. By December 1, 2024, the City Manager shall provide a report to the City Council on the 2024 utilization of the childcare stipend program. The report shall describe how the program benefited Board and Commission members in 2024 as well as the administrative resources used to support the program. The City Manager shall provide a report every two years thereafter as part of the budget process, with opportunities for evaluation and adjustment as needed.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 2nd day of April, 2024.

Signed in authentication thereof this 2nd day of April, 2024.

Kelli Curtis, Mayor

Attest:

Kathi Anderson, City Clerk

RESOLUTION R-5629

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM PROVIDING A CHILDCARE STIPEND FOR ELIGIBLE MEMBERS OF CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes the need to remove barriers for community members, particularly individuals with young children, to participate as volunteer members on City Boards and Commissions; and

WHEREAS, Objective 1.6 of the City's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Five Year Roadmap expressed the City Council's interest in removing barriers to entry for community members to serve on Boards and Commissions, including considering stipends for board and commission members; and

WHEREAS, after deliberating on potential options for providing childcare for Board and Commission members during the September 19, 2023 Council meeting, Council directed staff to proceed with developing a childcare stipend option to be implemented in conjunction with Board and Commission appointments in 2024; and

WHEREAS, recognizing a similar need for those serving as City councilmembers, the Salary Commission approved childcare stipends for eligible councilmembers, effective January 1, 2024, acknowledging the importance of supporting individuals responsible for the care of young children while serving in public office; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish a program to provide a stipend to Board and Commission members to alleviate barriers to participation at meetings arising from caring for young children; and

WHEREAS, the ordinances and resolutions establishing the City's various boards and commissions explicitly state that the members will serve without compensation for their service, but City Council has determined that modifications to those enacting documents are unnecessary as the stipend provided through the program established herein is not intended to be wages or any other form compensation for services.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to establish a childcare stipend program for Board and Commission members of the City of Kirkland. The stipend shall be provided to those